



State of Connecticut

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Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Joint Committee on Judiciary Public Hearing Testimony on S.B. 144

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION OF SENATE BILL 144

Good Morning Co-Chairs Senator Coleman, Representative Tong; Vice Chairs Senator Doyle, Representative Fox; Ranking Members Senator Kissel, Representative Rebimbas; and esteemed members of the Committee,

My name is Tim Ackert and I represent the 8th District which includes Columbia, Coventry, Vernon and Tolland. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today to speak on S.B. 144 AN ACT CONCERNING LAND THAT IS SUBJECT TO A CONSERVATION RESTRICTION HELD BY A NONPROFIT LAND-HOLDING ORGANIZATION. To clarify that possession, use or occupancy of land subject to a conservation restriction held by a nonprofit land-holding organization does not have the effect of terminating or modifying the conservation restriction.

I oppose the reversal of the legislation that was passed just last year as I believe it is a step back in land preservation. Last year's legislation which became law protects lands that are placed in protection from adverse possession. Lands sold or given to land trusts and protection should be protected from wrongful taking. If this legislation is to clarify language I would encourage this committee to work with the advocates for land preservation to help with that language.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition of this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Ackert", written over a horizontal line.

Tim Ackert